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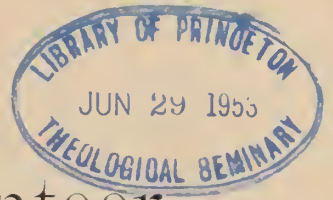


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The Student volunteer



The Student Volunteer

VOL VI

OCTOBER, 1897, TO JUNE, 1898

STUDENT VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS
New York

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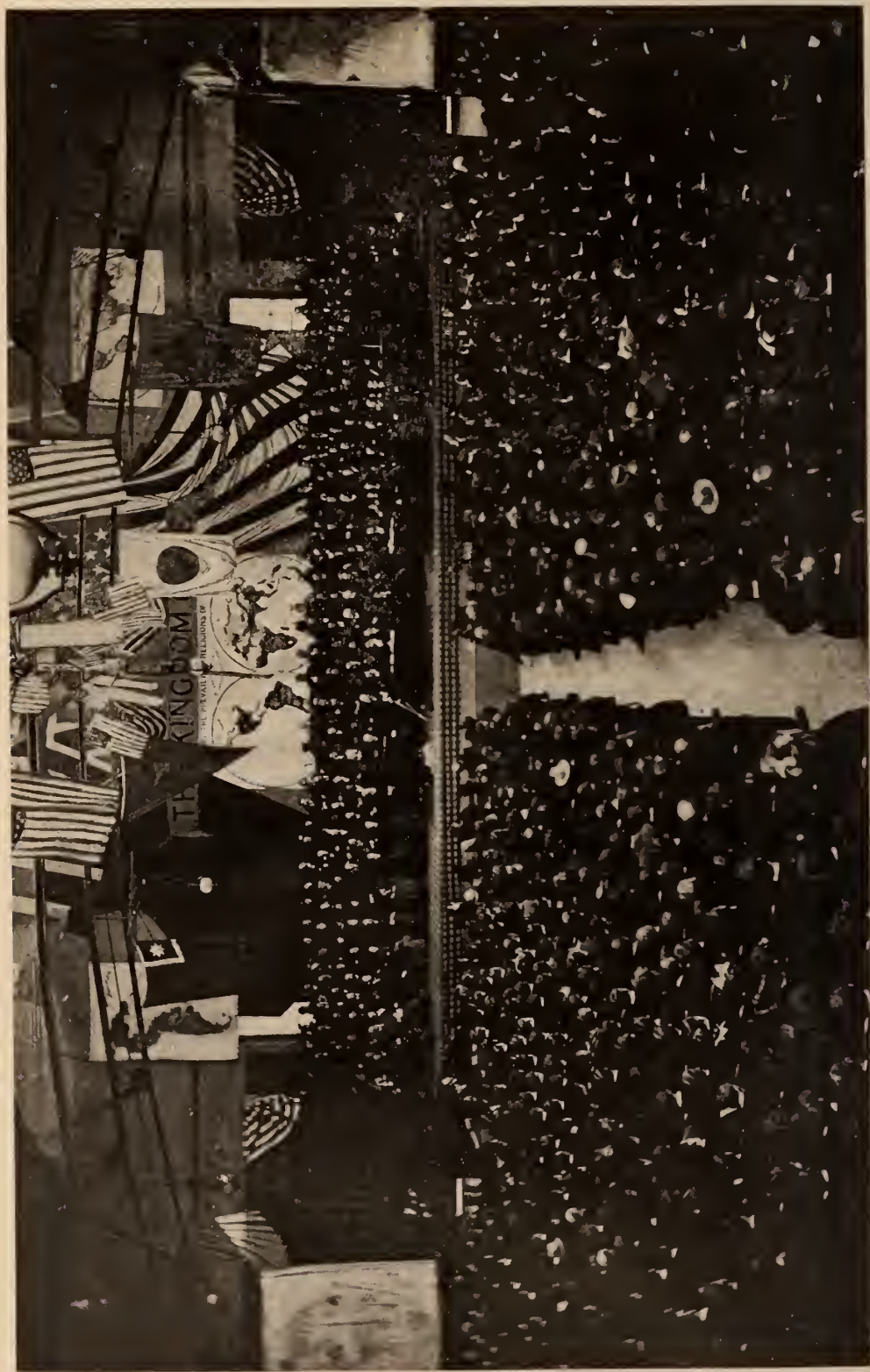
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STUDENT VOLUNTEER CONVENTION, GRAYS' ARMORY, CLEVELAND

The Student Volunteer

Vol. VI.

April, 1898

No. 7

The Third International Convention of the Student Volunteer Movement

By H. B. Sharman

I. The Programme of the Convention

FEB. 23-28, 1898

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Preparatory Service, conducted by Rev. F. B. Meyer, of London, England.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Address of Welcome, Rt. Rev. W. A. Leonard, D. D., Bishop of Ohio.

Response to the Welcome, Prof. J. Ross Stevenson.

"The Non-Christian Religions Inadequate to Meet the World's Need, or The Unique Supremacy of Christianity," Rev. David J. Burrell, D. D., of New York.

THURSDAY MORNING

The Report of the Executive Committee, Mr. John R. Mott.

"The Student Volunteer Missionary Union of Great Britain and Ireland," Mr. Douglas M. Thornton, fraternal delegate from the Union.

"The Intellectual and Practical Preparation of the Volunteer," Rev. J. C. R. Ewing, D. D., of Lahore, India.

"The Spiritual Qualifications of the Volunteer," Rt. Rev. M. E. Baldwin, D. D., Bishop of Huron.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

SECTION CONFERENCES :

1. India.
2. China.
3. Africa.
4. Japan and Corea.
5. South America, Mexico and other Papal lands.
6. The Turkish Empire, Persia and Egypt.
7. Ceylon, Burma and Siam.
8. The Jews.
9. Representatives of Missionary Training Schools.

The Student Volunteer

THURSDAY EVENING

"The Continental Problem of Africa," Mr. Douglas M. Thornton, of England.

"The Problem of Mohammedanism," Rev. S. M. Zwemer, F. R. G. S., of Arabia.

"The Problem of Confucianism," Rev. Harlan P. Beach.

"The Problem of Hinduism and Brahminism," Mr. Robert P. Wilder.

FRIDAY MORNING

"Christ's Measure of Giving," Bishop N. X. Ninde, D. D., of Detroit.

"Money," Rev. A. F. Schauffler, D. D., of New York.

"Prayer and the Solution of the Money Problem," Rev. H. C. Mabie, D. D., of Boston.

"The Church Missionary Society's Policy," Mr. Douglas M. Thornton, of England.

"Sacrifice to Support Representatives on the Foreign Field," Miss Margaret Leitch, of Ceylon.

"The Volunteer Securing His Own Support," Mr. Robert P. Wilder.

"The Young People's Societies and the Financial Problem," Mr. F. S. Brockman.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

SECTION CONFERENCES :

1. Evangelistic work.
2. Educational work.
3. Medical work.

FRIDAY EVENING

"What This Movement Means," Mr. Robert E. Speer, of New York.

"What This Movement Needs," Mr. John R. Mott.

"Christianity Essentially a Missionary Religion," Rt. Rev. T. U. Dudley, D. D., Bishop of Kentucky.

SATURDAY MORNING

"The Needs and Possibilities of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions Among the Colored Students of North America," Prof. J. W. E. Bowen, Ph. D., of Atlanta, Ga.

"The Responsibility Resting on Christian Ministers in View of this Student Uprising," Rev. R. P. Mackay, of Toronto.

"The Responsibility Resting on Christian Laymen in View of this Student Uprising," Hon. James A. Beaver, of Pennsylvania.

"The Responsibility Resting on Theological Seminaries and Christian Colleges in View of this Student Uprising," President Charles Cuthbert Hall, D. D., of New York.

"The Responsibility Resting on the Young People's Movements in View of this Student Uprising," Rev. Francis E. Clark, D. D., of Boston.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

1. Denominational Conferences.
2. Conference for Presidents, Professors and Instructors in Colleges and Theological Seminaries.

3. Conference of Members of State and International Committees, State and International Secretaries and Local Secretaries of the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations.

SATURDAY EVENING

"The Evangelization of the World in This Generation," Mr. Robert E. Speer, of New York.

SUNDAY MORNING

The Convention sermon (Rev. 7 : 9, 10), President Charles Cuthbert Hall, D. D., of New York.

"The Morning Watch," Mr. John R. Mott.

"How to Convey the Ideas and Spirit of the Convention to Others," Mr. Robert E. Lewis.

"Missionary Influence of the Summer Conferences," Mr. C. C. Michener.

"A Call to Foreign Service," Mr. Robert P. Wilder.

"The Significance of the Volunteer's Purpose," Mr. F. S. Brockman.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Meeting for men students.

Meeting for women students.

Women's meeting.

Mass meeting of the Young People's Societies of Cleveland.

Mass meeting for the men of Cleveland.

Meeting of all foreign missionaries.

SUNDAY EVENING

"The Statistics of the Convention," Mr. C. C. Michener.

"Our Supreme Motive," Mr. Douglas M. Thornton, of England.

Cable messages from Student Movements in other lands.

"After-Convention Perils," Mr. Gilbert A. Beaver.

"On Behalf of the Foreign Missionaries," Rev. J. C. R. Ewing, D. D., of Lahore, India.

"Our Work of the Near Future," Mr. S. M. Sayford.

"Our Equipment of Power," Mr. Robert P. Wilder.

Farewell messages from those expecting to sail for the foreign field within a year, concluding with Miss Ruth Rouse, Mr. Robert R. Gailey, Mr. Robert E. Lewis and Mr. F. S. Brockman.

Closing words, Mr. John R. Mott.

II. The Personnel of the Convention, with Comparisons

	Cleveland 1891	Detroit 1894	Cleveland 1898
Institutions represented.....	149	294	458
Student delegates.....	558	1,082	1,717
Presidents of institutions, professors and instructors.....	---	37	106
Foreign missionaries.....	32	63	89
Foreign Missionary Boards and Agencies.....	29	---	71

Secretaries and other official representatives of Foreign Missionary Boards and Agencies-----	33	54	83
Representatives of National Organizations of Young People, Editors, Secretaries of Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, visiting pastors and others -----	57	89	219
Total registered delegates-----	680	1,325	2,214

III. Some Outstanding Characteristics of the Convention

The Third International Convention of the Student Volunteer Movement was bold in its conception. To propose to bring together in one body such numbers of so many different active and potential foreign missionary forces may be regarded as one expression of the genius of a movement which has chosen for itself the solution of a world problem. The gathering, moreover, was large in its purpose, for it was convened to consider an enterprise of vital concern to every nation of the earth, and to resolve upon greater things for the extension of that kingdom which alone is comprehensive enough to take the sway over all peoples.

That for which plans had been made was realized; the Convention was great in its representative character. The mere statement of the figures reveals this; thought upon what each set of these means will emphasize the assertions that never before on the North American continent has such a missionary gathering been held, and not previous to this in the world's history has there been such an assemblage of Christian students. But even more impressive than the representativeness of its numbers was the quality of its personnel. Students chosen by their fellows from among many as those best fitted to express in their persons and possibilities the Christian sentiment of hundreds of institutions of higher learning in two countries; professors stirred by the missionary impulse, and thus representative of that ever-enlarging body of men of influence whose weight is being thrown with the forces that make for a deeper and more intelligent consideration of missions in colleges; the men and the women who are setting the missionary ideals for great organizations among the young people of many nations; young men who are shaping and who are to shape the religious conceptions of student movements throughout the world; writers whose judgments mould the opinions of scores of Christian workers everywhere; members and secretaries of missionary agencies chosen out of great sections of the Church because of their special qualifications for giving wise leadership and direction to great missionary forces; missionaries and other workers with stores of rich experience gathered from activities in the centers of the warfare—such a gathering was great in the quality of its composition. And this leads to the recognition of the Convention as great in the influence-spreading and inspiration-perpetuating character of its delegates. Such a body of men and women, from the fact that they are set upon high places, possess great power for giving range and permanency to whatever of insight and outlook God granted to them at Cleveland.

The comprehensiveness of its programme, as shown through its gradual unfolding from day to day, and as viewed in its entirety, was instructive and impressive. It reached out to all fields, to all phases of work, to all denominational activities and interests. It took account of the faiths that are to be faced and superseded, their weakness and their strength; it considered the message to be carried, it

content and power. It discussed the qualifications required in men, and the sources to be touched and methods to be used in securing the means. It stated the many-sided problem, and sought for all possible aids to its solution. It was a programme in keeping with the large purpose.

The intelligent consideration of these themes gave to the gathering at Cleveland a magnificence of sweep in its outlook which is rarely characteristic even in assemblages of those to whom it has been given to "make disciples of all the nations." The mind and spirit were again and again carried far afield until the words read not as of old, "beginning *at* Jerusalem," but were accepted in their clearer expression of present duty "beginning *from* Jerusalem," and the vision of a possession, a message, a commission "unto all the nations" was impressed upon the consciousness. Accepted but dull theory was fashioned over into inspiring and practical outlook.

The outlook took form from no partial or theoretical view of the problem. The Convention was strikingly practical in its approach to the great issues under consideration and in its treatment of them. It gave recognition to the tremendous forces which will have to be overcome; it had no dream of a silent conquest; it saw with great clearness the almost impregnable walls of ignorance, superstition and deadly sin; it was marked by a resolute facing of the practical, and in the sweep of its outlook it included the army and the armament of the enemy.

The clear apprehension of the stupendous task proposed gave singleness of aim, directness of attack and intensity of onset to the sessions of the Convention. None could mistake the clear and well-defined aim which was always uppermost; speakers entered with a sentence into the very life of their subject—they must if they were to deliver their message; all diffusive elements were eliminated. It was a great council of war, and its deliberations were well-defined, direct and intense.

The gathering was not daunted by the problem it had set itself to consider. It was marked by an abounding optimism. It sounded out words of advance; at no point did it suggest retreat or defeat. And yet it was notable for its steady sanity—a wisdom which took everything into account, and yet refused to be anything but deeply though suppressedly enthusiastic. Not much was spoken of the past and present-day triumphs of Christianity; the high hopes which were expressed were the normal fruitage of that commanding faith to which all things are possible. And that commanding faith gave to the gathering even more than an abounding optimism; it lifted it here and there to the point of prophetic vision—visions which in the years to come will be a power giving steadiness to the life in many dark quarters of the earth.

The Convention was remarkable for its freedom from conventionality in conception, plan and execution. Yet there was a conservatism in all proposals for advances in missionary effort which commended them to those of mature wisdom and experience. It proposed nothing revolutionary; it called for a larger missionary intelligence, a more faithful stewardship, a more perfect personal loyalty to Christ. It was impressive in the silent perfection of its machinery, and in the constant spirit of prayer, which was pervasive rather than formal. It spoke with no uncertainty as to its supreme loyalty to Jesus Christ, but it spent much time in the tolerant and discriminating setting forth of non-Christian faiths. It was a meeting of men of intelligence and education, and it called for men of intellectual and

practical training for the foreign service, yet it was constant in its recognition of the ultimate source of true power—the Spirit of God.

The Cleveland Convention was impressive as a refutation of the common but superficial assertion that Christianity has lost its power over men of intellect, as an exhibit of the essential spirit of Christianity—missionary, as a manifestation of the strength of organized Christian student life as it exists to-day, as representative of the purpose and spirit which in these latter days have taken possession of Christian students throughout the world. It was impressive in its array of young men who were masters of their subjects, in its content of new forces already set for the foreign field—fifty-nine to sail within twelve months, in the unity of its spirit notwithstanding the diversity of the beliefs represented, in its symmetry, in its clear, strong present appeal to the church, in its promise for the future of the missionary enterprise. Moreover, it was strikingly impressive in the quality and the range of the call which it sounded out to the life of the individual student who was present. The quality of that call was nothing less than absolute obedience to God; its range ran from humble service as a supporter to heroic sacrifice as a leader. And the impact was so tremendous upon the mind and spirit of one who sat through the meetings that the impressions, convictions and visions may be regarded as a life possession.

The sessions were a series of revelations of God's honoring of world-wide intercession. That men and women in thirty different countries of the world were daily in prayer for the gathering at Cleveland goes far to explain why that gathering was so constantly and evidently under the all-wise leadership of the Spirit of God.

The influence of such a gathering upon the future activities of foreign fields cannot be measured. Men who have spent such days together as members of a common movement, having thoughts in common, feelings in common, aspirations in common, purposes in common, visions in common, must surely work together upon foreign fields in the years to come with a singleness in aim, a purity in motive, an unselfishness in co-operation, which in themselves will be a powerful appeal for the truth of the common message the workers convey.

The Significance of the Cleveland Convention

By Douglas M. Thornton, Trinity College, Cambridge

IT is some time since the news of the recent financial crisis in America reached England. It is but a little while since we heard that several fully qualified student volunteers were being refused for lack of funds by three of the oldest and largest missionary boards on the Continent. We saw clearly that unless volunteers kept pressing out to the field, the Volunteer Movement would cease to move. From the time that we heard the sad news, it has been the

burden of our prayer, that through this Convention God would send a wave of blessing over the land, strengthen faith and kindle hope in the Lord of our watchword, feeling sure that what He had commanded, He was able also to perform.

When asked to attend the Convention, it was therefore our object to help to answer this prayer. There seemed to be a little more of "the faith policy in missions" needed for the North American

Church ; so that, when confronted with the needs of the world and the financial problem at home, there might be given a corresponding faith, like Carey's, to do and dare. Two things were needed to bring this about : For the leaders of missionary enterprise to be unanimous that a challenge to the Church of Christ was especially needed at the present time ; for the Student Volunteer Movement to prepare to make the challenge, and call on the churches to send out every duly qualified student volunteer to active service on the foreign field.

The more one thinks over the scope of the program, the more one is impressed by it. No one except those who have sought to arrange so varied a one knows the difficulties that it involves. You have only to read over its special features, as outlined beforehand, to see how boldly and thoroughly it was carried out. I doubt whether the need of the world has ever been more fully reviewed in two short meetings, than in those of Thursday afternoon and evening ; or the principles and the lines of its conquests more convincingly demonstrated than was done from day to day. Never have I heard more helpful addresses than those on "The Spiritual and Intellectual Preparation of the Volunteer" ; or a more masterly apology for the existence of our Movement than that presented in the report of the Convention. I am certain that the "money question" has never been grappled by more hard-headed reasoning and unquestioned faith than during those days. Is it not also significant that bishop, presbyter and deacon, professor, student and professional man should all take their part on one platform to consider the great problem of the evangelization of the world, and to undertake greater things for the extension of the Kingdom of Christ?

A few leading features of the gathering call for special notice. It was preëminently a reunion of leaders of the Volunteer Movement, past and present. Have not Messrs. Mott, Speer, Wilder, Wishard and Miss Rouse alone spread the spirit of the Movement into more than twenty countries? Secondly, every facility was given for secretaries of missionary boards to come into closest personal touch with volunteers of their own denomination. Thirdly, the missionary literature exhibit fully justified its claim to be "the most comprehensive and carefully collected educational exhibit on missions ever made." I failed to see as many hand-made charts and diagrams as we had at Liverpool—nearly all of them the work of lady students. But the Movement has certainly to be congratulated on having secured that permanent gift of books from publishers and missionary societies. Nor can one ever forget that American people are hospitable folk, when it is remembered that a week before the Convention one thousand students had to be provided with accommodation, and yet when the time came the whole number was entertained in Cleveland, and there were promises of one hundred beds to spare. This certainly also reflects great credit on the organizers of local arrangements. What shall I say of the model way in which the whole Convention was planned, was led, and was controlled ; of the care that was taken not to burden the audience with many announcements from the platform ; of the capacity that American students have for giving close attention throughout a session of three hours ; or of the effective part that the singing played in deepening impressions already made by addresses ; and lastly, of that monumental gift to the support of the Movement in the coming years? These features bring back fragrant memories.

One can only compare the occasion with similar conventions that one has been privileged to attend before, to feel convinced that the Cleveland Convention has already secured its aim, in being "the largest student convention ever held in the world, as well as the most representative missionary gathering ever convened on the North American Continent." Yes, Mr. Mott was right when he affirmed that "this Convention is the result of the spiritual solidarity of the World's Student Christian Federation, and of spiritually-minded people praying in thirty-five or forty different countries. We have here a colossal example of the power of intercessory prayer, and of the value of being able to concentrate the prayer of nations upon one point."

What, then, is the true significance of this gathering? Not only that it forms the last great missionary convention of students of the Western world during the nineteenth century; nor yet the first

great gathering since the sealing of the brotherhood of the nations at Williamstown last summer. Not so much in the magnitude of the delegations, nor the largeness of the representation. All these are weighty, forceful facts to meditate upon. But it would seem to mark the coming of still brighter days. It cannot be that all these movements among the young have thus arisen on every side, merely to register attendances on great occasions. No, they are meant to bring a more abundant life to all the churches in the years to come, to challenge Christendom to wake from slumber and to send them forth, to spread the triumphs of the Cross of Christ to every land. Thus waiting more expectantly for our beloved Lord, the twentieth century will dawn in hopefulness, that ere another generation shall have passed away, the Gospel may have been preached in all the world, to every creature, and thus Jesus be made King.

Encouragements Growing Out of the Convention

Rev. Walter R. Lambuth, M.D.

Secretary Methodist (South) Board of Missions

1. *The Presence and Power of the Spirit of God*

This fulfilment of the Divine promise which, in much assurance, had been expected by the leaders of the Student Volunteer Movement was one of the great encouragements vouchsafed the Convention. It is a fundamental principle in spiritual movements that a deepening work of grace should always precede an expanding work of evangelism. The spirit of sober earnestness manifested by leaders and delegates spoke of that consciousness of the presence of the Lord Jesus that always leads to conviction and a sense of personal responsi-

bility. It is unquestionably true that the power of great men lies in subjection, and the potentiality of great spiritual movements is alone found along God-given lines. It was Ruskin who said, "Sir Joshua Reynolds attributed his power to seeing the will of God and not opposing to it any will of his own." It is not so much the growth of the Movement to which we would point, nor the absence of serious mistakes, though both are noteworthy, but rather to the Spirit-filled young men and women who have offered themselves with the reverent prayer, "Lo, I come to do Thy will, oh God."

2. *A New and Enlarged Vision of the Work of God*

What else could have given a world-wide significance to the Movement? Ours is an age of magnificent expectations, world-wide enterprises, and boundless possibilities. It is difficult, even for the most sanguine, to realize the momentous issues growing out of a co-ordinate movement upon the part of the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race in the evangelization of the world, and that magnificent marshaling of forces made possible by the World's Federation of Christian students. Viewed from a purely human standpoint, it means a massing of manly strength which Browning so beautifully describes as—

“The great march
Wherein man runs to man
To assist him to buttress an arch
Naught can break.”

But viewed from the higher level of a child of the King, it is the manifestation of the flood-tide of a spiritual current, which is sweeping the shores of every nation.

3. *The Aggressive, yet Wisely Conservative Leadership of the Movement*

“First weigh, then dare,” said Von Moltke, the great Prussian general. A careful weighing of minutest detail has been accompanied by the broadest plans. We should remember that, though in daily life we may be forced to handle parts, it is well to cultivate the habit of seeing wholes. A readiness to seek the counsel of wise men, the guidance of the Spirit of God and an exalted spirit of joyful service which impels the leaders to go to the front when needed, has inspired confidence in the rank and file of the volunteers. No fact has been more indicative of the spirit of earnest-

ness than that, out of twenty-six Secretaries and members of the Executive Committee, fourteen have gone to the foreign field, four more are preparing to sail, three others are now before their respective boards for appointment, and the remaining five are in preparation. Have these not received the mantle of David Livingstone, who, when asked by the Directors of the London Missionary Society where he desired to go, replied, “I am ready to go anywhere, provided it is forward.”

4. *Recognition and Endorsement*

While the English clergy are not slow to recognize merit, they have always been conservative in their endorsement of new enterprises. What higher assurance of confidence could any missionary movement have, than that which was recently expressed in the Lambeth Conference, where fifty-six Bishops of the Church of England, in response to an invitation from the Archbishop of Canterbury to consider the Movement, gave their personal endorsement to the purpose and plans of these Christian students? The representation at the Cleveland Convention of seventy-one boards and missionary societies, by eighty-three secretaries, together with the presence of a number of bishops, college presidents, professors and editors of religious journals, is, in itself, an indication of profound significance. These, by individual expression and in public addresses, pledged their deepest interest and most cordial support. A large number of missionaries, among them some of the most eminent leaders in Christian effort in India, China, Africa, and South America, were in attendance. This representative body of experienced workers adopted resolutions expressing their conviction of the ripeness of the age for such a Movement. Immediately following

the close of the Convention, the Chairman, Mr. John R. Mott, called a meeting of the secretaries of the boards and missionary societies for criticism and suggestion. The consensus of opinion was, that the proceedings from beginning to end had been conducted with great wisdom. A missionary of large experience has voiced the prevailing sentiment in the words, "The absence of leadership upon the part of any one man was, to me, the best indication of the leadership of God."

5. *The Morning Watch*

This has been styled an age of doubt. The highest and severest forms of criticism have been applied to the deepest and most vital truths of religion. But we are happy to quote the words of so eminent an authority as Dr. Henry Van Dyke, who has said, "If the evils and dangers of the age are great, its encouragements are even greater. The experiment of a secular belief has never been tried on such a large and splendid scale, with such blank and desperate failure." The longings and efforts of the world to

attain a higher, purer existence for all men have never been more generous and ardent. A fierce fire of criticism has been directed upon the Word of God, intenser than the rays of a Syrian sun. This criticism has, in most cases, emanated from the schools of learning and is considered in some quarters as an expression of the highest intellectualism. But we thank God that in these same institutions over 10,000 students are spending the first half-hour of every day in the earnest, devotional study of the Scriptures. More than this, under the federated movement, the Morning Watch now girdles the globe. Surely the stars in their courses shout for joy as they bend over the Anglo-Saxon, the Hindu and the Chinese students who, before the break of day, think the thoughts of God and attune their souls to the music of heaven. When the highest culture unites with the deepest spirituality, there must come once more to the world a religious reformation and a missionary revival which will usher in the final conquest of the Cross.

The Convention from a Missionary Professor's View-Point

By W. F. Oldham, Ohio Wesleyan University

HAVING been asked to write an article on my impressions of the "Cleveland Convention," I divide what I have to say into, first, what seemed to me admirable, and, second, respects in which improvement might be made.

The deeply impressive feature, which dominates all other things in one's memory, was the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit and the earnest effort of the leaders to thrust aside all advertising methods. The absence of flaunting programs, with display type for names of prominent speakers; the avoidance of

that weakness which so easily besets almost every convention of thrusting upon the audience "for a few minutes" every passing notable without reference to his special fitness; the discouraging of merely sensuous singing; the large place given to silent prayer; the profound conviction that the missionary aggressiveness which the Convention voiced was of "the Will of God"—all these were wholly praiseworthy.

Besides the main good that was easily visible—the deepening of spiritual life, and the placing of "the evangelization of the world in this generation" so

definitely before the student body of America and the Church at large—these were some incidental results that the Movement, as voiced in the Convention, promises to achieve.

1. The quality of the missionary timber can no longer be questioned. No one who looked at the massed delegations from North and South, East and West, could fail to be gratified to see the keen, purposeful intelligence that the faces showed. Some of the best men and women of all the colleges were evidently the representatives, in their respective schools, of the "missionary idea."

2. The question of the means of support was so ably and so fully discussed as to breathe new expectation into the heart and mind of earnest missionary advocates. The same Spirit whose presence and power are seen among the volunteers will surely—so it was reasonably argued and spiritually demonstrated—open the way for their going and maintenance. That this will be brought about by both increased gifts and greater economy, was the prayerful expectation left by the Convention.

3. The entire accord and sympathy with the Boards, taught by precept and example, must relieve the most conservative of any fear lest the enthusiasm of young life should lead the volunteers into questionable experiments. Experiments there may yet be, and indeed some there may well be, but they will, so far as the Cleveland Convention teaching goes, be strictly under the direction and with the consent of the regular missionary authorities.

4. The range and quality of the educational help in the study of missions afforded by the Movement won the grateful approbation of the missionaries and college professors who were present. It is a matter for congratulation that a scholarly ex-missionary is the educa-

tional secretary. The literature that is being evolved is of the very kind that will give meat and bone to the volunteers. No abiding enthusiasm can be aroused without adequate foundation in knowledge.

Earnest effort was made to introduce into the regular curriculum of the colleges and seminaries the history of missions. Dr. Cuthbert Hall's paper set forth in most convincing phrase the educational and cultural value of the subject as an academic requirement. The history of missions is but a particular setting of the history of human progress. The theological seminaries, too, will take forward steps in definite and enlarged attention to the teaching of the problems and history of missions.

5. Deep thankfulness is in all our hearts that God's grace was so largely vouchsafed to the young leaders, who, with a wisdom beyond their years, and with a fragrant devotion born of days and months of prayer, led the young host committed to their charge to deeper consecration and holier enthusiasm.

6. The Convention was a challenge to the Church at large to utilize the material furnished by its own choicest sons and daughters, and to go forward with enlarged plans and wider sweep to the conquest of the world, under the leadership and in the name of Jesus Christ.

The missionaries present were greatly encouraged and all thoughtful educators saw in the force of the Movement an almost new purifying and vitalizing agency in college circles.

I think there are two things that need attention.

1. If it can be done without overlaying the Volunteer movement, there should be formed an auxiliary section of "Volunteer Helpers," *i. e.*, men and women, who, perfectly clear that God does not call them *to go*, may still be de-

pendent upon *to send*, by assuming, as soon as able, the entire support of one foreign worker. Meanwhile, let them be included in all the educational activity, the prayer-spirit of holy devotion of the *volunteers*. This will form in ten years a mighty Home Guard in charge of the Commissariat. Buddha's plan of lay disciples who could not join the Sangha, but were its devoted supporters, would in a few years supply our churches with intelligent and helpful teachers on missionary giving.

2. A little more attention might be given to the people in whose city the Convention meets. Their abounding hospitality, their kindest welcome, merited more manifest solicitude that they should be given the opportunity to partake of the good things which the Convention provided. To this end a clear statement in the daily paper of overflow meet-

ings, strongly manned, particularly at the evening session, might be announced, and free access to the galleries, or some assigned part of the main Convention hall, be had, without necessitating the unseemly scramble which prevented hundreds of interested citizens from visiting the armory. This would certainly have been appreciated by them.

Take it all in all, the Cleveland Convention was, in my judgment, the most significant token of a great advance in the Kingdom of Jesus Christ that my delighted eyes have seen since my return to America. May the Holy Spirit continue to overshadow all the human energy and skill used in all the departments and make this the beginning of that great new crusade whose aim is, not to recover the grave of a dead Christ, but to establish the throne of the living Christ. *Deus vult.*

Significance of the Convention to Workers on the Field

By J. C. R. Ewing, D.D., Lahore, India

THE Cleveland Convention was wonderful. The presence of such a multitude of earnest, serious, consecrated young men and women seemed to some of us a harbinger of great victory. The power of the Holy Spirit was seen throughout. Every thoughtful Christian who attended must have witnessed and heard enough to fill his heart with fresh enthusiasm and the brightest hope.

The foreign missionary saw and heard and was glad. There were eighty-nine men and women in attendance at this Convention who have been face to face—some of them for scores of years—with the conditions and needs of unevangelized nations. None, perhaps, know so well as they the deepest significance of much that was said and done in Cleve-

land. The spectacle which, from day to day, they witnessed from the platform of the Armory is one the impression of which will not speedily pass away. They received there a message concerning things essential to the fulfillment of our Lord's command to evangelize the nations. They saw and heard something of the number and quality of the reinforcements for which they have been longing and praying.

In recalling the experiences of those days, certain impressions of a very distinct character stand clearly before the mind.

1. Many young men and women of this Continent are definitely preparing for Christian service in non-Christian lands. These are not second-rate youth. They are fairly accounted amongst the bright-

est and best that the Church possesses. In intellectual and spiritual equipment they rank among the highest.

2. This readiness to go forth has its source in a deep conviction that the only Saviour of the world is Jesus Christ our Lord, together with a recognition of the binding nature of His Command to evangelize the nations.

3. These young people are entering upon this enterprise intelligently. Through the systematic study of God's Word, and of the conditions and needs of non-Christian peoples, they are gaining for themselves a practical equipment of the highest value.

4. They are intensely in earnest. They are prepared for, and will, if called, gladly go forth to occupy the hard places.

5. They represent a wide-spread interest in missions amongst that class to which the Church has always looked with the greatest longing and hope. The *young people* of the schools and colleges are hearing the call, and who can tell what the issue is to be? This, at least, seems clear, that the Church is not much longer to lack either laborers in the field or profoundly interested pastors and other leaders at home.

6. The very existence of such a band of youth constitutes a challenge to the whole Church. Through long years she asked of the Lord of the Harvest laborers. They are here. The harvest is waiting. The Church is now challenged to recognize the answer to her own prayer, and no longer to restrain the reapers from gathering the harvest.

I am aware that the Volunteer Movement has been subjected to criticism. There were certain features connected with its earlier years which doubtless afforded justification for the grave doubts which were entertained by not a few. This is not surprising. The leaders of

the enterprise have, however, been wise. They have faithfully dealt with objectionable features. That the organization in all its details is now perfect, they do not claim. But that it has already become a mighty factor in the realm of missionary activity is something which to all is most obvious. Knowing, as we do, that the Movement had its inception in prayer, and that it stands firmly and consistently for the highest type of personal consecration, may we not anticipate still greater results from it in the direction of that which is its aim—"The evangelization of the world in this generation."

In many of the great missionary fields the Movement is no longer an experiment; volunteers are to-day at the front. Those of us who are older have seen these men and women as they entered the field. We have seen in their character and work unmistakable marks of the genius of the organization. We have seen the Chairman of the Movement on his tour, leaving a shining track of blessing behind him all around the world. Many a veteran of scores of years of service has received a spiritual uplift directly traceable to the incoming of young lives all on fire with a divine enthusiasm, generated in the great volunteer meetings of America and England.

To the missionary in the thick of the battle, fairly overwhelmed and all dazed with the immensity of the task before him, the existence of this new force means much. The heathen are dying by thousands every day. The Christian living amidst them knows what that means. He can reach but the few. His heart fairly breaks with the horror of it all. The great band standing ready to go forth is hailed by the sorely overburdened missionary with a glad "Thank God!" It tells him of a time

near at hand when the number of light-bearers will be so multiplied that all who will may see the light.

In the garrison at Lucknow in 1857, how the beleaguered English with that prince of Christian officers, Sir Henry Lawrence, at their head, longed and prayed for the coming of the army that was to bring deliverance! At last the suspense was ended. It was only a faint sound that they heard on that morning when hope had almost died, but the sound was that of the Scottish bagpipes! In these closing years of the century,

amidst the depressing influences, the overwhelming demands and the awful horror of millions perishing without Christ, the scattered army of the Lord hears of the bands which are forming to advance to the rescue, and it is glad with a great gladness.

Let the churches but awake and know the need and their responsibility, and the waiting laborers will no longer wonder why it is that the Master seems to call, gives them the grace to heed His call, and still the Church, which is His, fails to send them forth.

Editorial Notes

As the present issue indicates, the Cleveland Convention was blessed beyond the most sanguine expectation. Delegates who were present at those never-to-be-forgotten sessions have needed no exhortation to induce them to possess the permanent record of these meetings. But though to the delegates the forthcoming report is of great value, it should be even more helpful and inspiring to the greatly larger number of Christian students who were not privileged to be there. While, with the memory of those most instructive and timely addresses fresh in mind, one is tempted to speak extravagantly of their value, it is undoubtedly true to say that this report—which is verbatim so far as the addresses are concerned—will contain the most noteworthy collection of missionary discussions, appeals and prophetic utterances that has ever appeared. It will be a worthy reproduction of the most remarkable missionary convention yet convened. Let no student interested in missions fail to immediately send in his order for a copy. The price on advance orders will be \$1 per copy until May 15th, when it will be increased to \$1.50.

The Spring Course of study has already enrolled a goodly number of students, and there is reason to hope that the total enrolment will be larger than in any previous Spring term. The textbook, entitled "St. Paul and the Gentile World: or, Missions in the Light of Acts and the Gentile Epistles," is, perhaps, the most elaborately wrought out series of outlines covering the general topic of the Bible and Missions that has appeared. Several features contained in this booklet will prove most helpful to students. When it is remembered that the course of study is wholly biblical and that it treats of the life and missionary work of the Church's greatest foreign missionary, it will surely be felt worth while to organize study classes where none are found, and to strengthen those already established. Let this term's record exceed every precedent.



In this connection we desire to say that so great has been the demand for the paper-bound copies of the Fall textbooks, Dr. Bliss's "Development of the Mission Field," and Mr. Mott's "Strategic Points in the World's Conquest," that the very large edition has been ex-

hausted. While no more can be had in paper, the cloth-bound volumes are still obtainable.

Our picture of a section of the Convention Hall and of a portion of its large audience will remind many of heavenly days spent in the Grays' Armory. The photograph from which it was made was kindly furnished us by Mr. G. W. Schoch, of Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Mich. He will mail 8 x 10 in. mounted copies of the photograph for thirty-five cents, or unmounted for twenty-five cents. Foreign orders should be accompanied by five cents additional.

We consider it so desirable that our constituents should have the best interdenominational missionary magazine in the English language, *The Missionary Review of the World*, that we gladly announce that the publishers, The Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York, have consented to send it for \$1.50 a year to those who order it before a restoration to the regular rate, \$2.50 a year. It is an opportunity that should be speedily embraced by all.

In response to many urgent invitations of last year, Mr. Mott has arranged to spend the next four or five months in Europe. Among the opportunities awaiting him there are the conference of theological students of Great Britain and Ireland to be held within a few days, a ten days' visit at Oxford, and one of equal length at Cambridge, a tour through all the Holland universities, perfecting the arrangements for and attending the meeting of the World's Student Christian Federation to be held, probably, in the historic Wartburg Castle, and attendance upon the World's Conference of the Young Men's Chris-

tian Association, at Basle. Since Mr. Mott makes this tour in the capacity of General Secretary of the Federation and Chairman of the Volunteer Movement, we confidently bespeak for him the prayers of all connected with these organizations, assured that, as on his previous tour, so again such intercession will prevail with God.

"The Field Campaign for Missions"

If any effective campaign work is to be undertaken this summer, plans should be speedily devised for so doing. Nothing that has yet appeared in print can compare with Mr. Lewis's "The Field Campaign for Missions," constituting No. 12 of "The Student Volunteer Series." It bristles with practical suggestions arising from a wide experience, and covers every point concerning which one would be apt to inquire. Let every student proposing to enter such work, send five cents to the office for a copy of this most helpful booklet.

A valuable auxiliary in the above work is "The Opportunity for Student Volunteers in the Present Crisis," by the Misses Leitch, of Ceylon. It abounds in statements concerning the need on foreign fields and the way in which the present crisis may be met. Its illustrations of what individuals have done to forward such work will prove most helpful in summer addresses. It can be had from the Movement at five cents per copy. Both of these booklets have been examined and endorsed by Volunteer and Board leaders.

Miss Bamford's "Her Twenty Heathen," 131 pages, published by the Pilgrim Press, Chicago, is an interesting collection of missionary stories bearing on the motives for giving. It can be sent from our office for 25 cents, in paper.

Some Representative Judgments of the Religious Press

The Outlook :

Those who fear that Institutional Christianity is on the wane, that churches are dying out, that the missionary spirit is nearly extinct, that prayer is a lost art, and that consecration to Christian service belongs to a past age of faith, are recommended to read the account of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions. That the great convention which gives occasion for this report is something more than a mass-meeting which fires by numbers a fervor that expires when the meeting is over, is apparent. That the movement is thoroughly sane is evident from one result produced by it—the introduction of the study of missions into the curriculum of several institutions as the result of its influence. That it is free from that emotionalism which, divorced from judgment, creates an enthusiasm as short-lived as it is vociferous, is apparent from the clear discrimination which its members make between evangelization and Christianization. This movement means, this seems to us clear, a new birth of a wise, well-ordered, sane, Christian enthusiasm, among the young men and young women of the more educated and cultured class of America.

Probably no other fact of equal power and promise is so little understood or appreciated throughout the churches which are to profit thereby as this movement, which has just completed a decade of organized activity. From now onward it is destined to be valued at its worth. It is at once a new movement and an old—old in principle, in development new.

A thoughtful and even critical witness might well be impressed, first, by the intense seriousness, the deep earnestness,

of the convention, the absence of any sign of shallowness or inconsideration, the Biblical, prayerful spirit apparent; next, by the apologetic value of it. The facts there conspicuous pulverize all the stuff printed about Christianity losing its hold, etc. Next, the reflex influence of this movement on the churches is obvious. Whether more or fewer volunteers sail—though this is not in doubt—there will at any rate be a far stronger base of operations in a wider, warmer and wiser interest of the churches and pastors, a better appreciation of Phillips Brooks's saying that foreign missions are the necessary fulfillment of the Christian life, a better comprehension of the cosmopolitanism of normal Christianity. Lastly, there was a revelation of the latent springs of power in the bosom of the Church, needing only the Spirit's breath to thaw the ice away. Thinking on this, the twenty-four hundred who went to Cleveland—volunteers, veterans, missionaries, bishops, pastors and teachers, with here and there an editor making notes—went home to thank God and take courage.

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The Independent :

The bare statement of the programme gives an idea of the convention and also of the movement; but it can give no idea of the spirit that dominated and dominates both the convention and the movement. That may be defined in a word as consecrated common sense. There were no pyrotechnics, very little appeal; chiefly a calm, straightforward, thoroughly practical discussion of the problems, not merely of the great work of foreign missions but of the movement it-

self, with no ignoring of the dangers or slighting of the perplexities. There were times when the tension was high.

These, however, were rather the exceptions. The prevalent tone was that of practical discussion pervaded with a solemn realization of what was and must be involved in the acceptance of the watchword which was displayed on the left of the speakers, while on the right was the text, "Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy Power." The general conduct of the convention deserves the highest praise. The programme was as nearly complete as possible. The audience was kept well in hand, no time being wasted in applause. The music was inspiring. The students are now back at their work to carry out themselves and give, so far as possible, to others the impulse of a convention, remarkable not less for its deep spiritual character than its plain common sense and good judgment.

The Student Volunteer Movement has demonstrated its right to be considered one of the most important agencies in the Christian world, not merely for the evangelizing of foreign lands, but for the development of a true Christian life at home.



The Missionary Review of the World:

All things considered, including the theme continually uppermost in every mind and heart, the great religious movement represented, the intellectual and spiritual character of the delegates with the student bodies which sent them, the eminently business-like management of affairs, the well thought through and comprehensive programme, the remarkable high average excellence of the numerous addresses, the ruling spirit and motive from first to last, the really tremendous though quiet and con-

trolled enthusiasm everywhere manifest, it is to be counted a remarkable and significant gathering, and one not often, if ever, equaled.



The *Christian Advocate* (Methodist Episcopal):

The convention was unique in its purpose and effects. It is to the credit of the officers of the missionary societies generally in the United States and Canada that they were so largely represented. . . . It is also to the great credit of the institutions of learning that so many of them sent, with their respective delegates, representatives from their faculty, that they might the more fully comprehend the spirit, the purpose, and the plans of this movement in their several institutions.

. . . It is to the credit of the young men and young women who guide this enthusiastic uprising that they not only exhibited self-control, but evidently created it in the vast body of pupils under their direction. It is to the credit of the student delegates present that they were not disposed to shirk any obstacles, either in the foreign field or at home.

. . . The entire movement presents to the churches at large another very important factor in the great problem of bringing the world to Christ. . . .

The fields are open; a far, far larger number of men and women are ready to cultivate them than the societies are able to send to the front. They wait till the Church of God shall come up to meet the responsibility of these and other providential indications, and lay on God's altar the money necessary to further this advance.



The *Standard* (Baptist):

The spectacle of hundreds of eager, hopeful young men and women gathering in convention at Cleveland to con-

sider the cause of foreign missions is one that should touch the heart of the church. Here is an army, enlisted for the war, trained or training in the best schools, ready to carry reinforcement to the weary regiments on distant fields. The call comes from abroad, "Send us more men, more women, or we must give up. Send us more men, or we cannot repair the gaps in our walls. "Send us more men, or when the enemy weakens we cannot pursue. Send us more men, or we must turn our camps into hospitals." Why do the volunteers stand on the home shores, looking anxiously across the waters to the land where they would be? Because the church has said "Wait." Because the church has taken her Lord's great commission and endorsed upon it "Execution postponed for lack of funds. Under waiting orders. By order of commissary department."

The persons now on the rolls of the Volunteer Movement, so far as can be determined by observation and inquiry, are not mere enthusiasts, nor are they well-meaning but unsophisticated young folks whose piety has been developed at the expense of their brains. On the contrary, they are far above the average of their respective colleges and professional schools in intellectual ability, and include some of the brightest men and women whom the smaller colleges graduate. . . . Indeed, one need go no further than to the foreign mission secretaries to learn that many of the best candidates now offering themselves for service have been led to do so by the Volunteer Movement and the Volunteer pledge. It is plain that the army is not lingering around the recruiting stations because of disability in the ranks.

While these hundreds of waiting workers—scores in our own Baptist denomination—are being held back by the careless indifference of professed Christ-

ians who give nothing to missions, the fields abroad are lying ready for conquest. . . . For years the prayer was that new workers might be raised up, willing to give themselves to missionary work. Now the workers, trained and ready, even accepted by our Board, stand waiting. Is it not a mockery for us to continue to pray that prayer until we have shown our readiness to accept the answer already given?

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The Churchman (Protestant Episcopal):

The programme of the convention was remarkable. It was comprehensive in a large sense. The most difficult problems of missions were discussed by experts; a presentation of the needs and opportunities of each field was made with clearness and vividness. Valuable suggestions were made to the students how to help the Church in developing missionary interest, and how to prepare themselves for missionary work. In fact, as a prominent Church leader expressed it, it seems that no question of vital importance was omitted. But the programme also had a symmetry which was no less impressive. Each topic was delicately adjusted, and in no instance was the perspective of the whole convention lost. There was also a unity which one felt could come only of the Spirit of God. Speakers came and went, but through it all there was an unmistakable evidence of growth until the climax was reached in the farewell session.

The spirit of the convention was one of its most striking characteristics. It was deeply devotional. With rare foresight, the chairman had appointed a committee for the promotion of prayer in the convention. A sort of deep earnestness and seriousness also pervaded the convention, and yet with it a spirit of

hopefulness. Always before their eyes was the watchword of the movement, "The evangelization of the world in this generation," and one felt impressed that there was not a person present who did not expect to see this accomplished. The intensity was sometimes almost oppressive, and yet all of the discussions were characterized by common sense and practicalness. This was a truly remarkable Missionary Council.

The Student Volunteer Movement is a "movement" and its friends believe that the Holy Spirit is behind and beneath it as a propelling force.



The New York Observer (Presbyterian):

CONVENTION TRUTHS AND IMPRESSIONS

And perhaps these can best be given in numerical order:

1. This movement was started by God Himself. It was born in prayer and is being nourished by prayer.

2. Great stress is laid upon the necessity of personal purity and power, and of living the life hid with Christ in God.

3. Entire consecration is taught constantly, a consecration that reaches down to the pocket.

4. The possibility and feasibility of evangelizing the world in this generation is ever held to the front, that is, the possibility of bringing Jesus Christ within the reach of every person in the world, so that he can have an intelligent opportunity of accepting Him as the personal Saviour.

5. The beautiful interdenominational character of the movement. Except in the denominational conferences, it was almost impossible to learn the denominations of the speakers and missionaries, which is certainly an answer to our Lord's prayer in John 17:21.

6. The close coöperation and perfect

understanding between the secretaries of the various denominational boards and the movement.

7. The fine manner in which the convention was managed, one prominent clergyman privately saying that the older men could die now at any time without anxiety for the future, with such able and consecrated youthful leaders ready to take their places.

8. The splendid educational work being done by the movement along Bible and missionary lines. It was brought out by the convention that the morning watch is largely observed by volunteers, and that last year there were two hundred and sixty-seven classes, having in them two thousand three hundred and sixty-one students, to promote the systematic and progressive study of missions.

9. The conviction that the movement itself is stronger and better managed than ever, and that it has its greatest work yet before it.

10. The resulting conviction that it should have the complete confidence and the united and even enthusiastic support of all the churches.



The Interior (Presbyterian):

It was a wonderful convention, the largest student body ever gathered together, not only a body of Christian workers but a body of educated workers, embracing many leaders in Christian thought and activity, and a long file of those, who with a strong conviction that they had a definite work to do, stood intelligently ready for service.

Any one conversant with the history of the phenomenal progress of the Student Volunteer Movement must have been struck with its simplicity of method and marvelous equipment of power. The secret of this strength may be found in

the motto of its banners: "Not by an army, nor by power, but by my spirit."

From their beginning, the services were marked in their spiritual trend. Each soul was shut in with itself and God, and the impression was more deeply imprinted that the convention as a whole was not one in which any particular man or woman was to be brought forward, but that every person and thing was to give way before the personality of Christ, and that He alone was to rule supreme.

"The end of conquest is but the beginning of an enterprise;" the convention closed on Saturday night, but did not end. Those people had come together with a purpose, they had heard something, they had gotten something and they were going back to tell and give to others. A mighty influence for good was bound to flow from such a source. Can any one estimate the blessings carried away?



The Boston *Congregationalist* (an editorial):

Such a convention as that held in Cleveland, Feb. 23-27, was a significant event in modern Christian history. It shows that faith in the Gospel is by no means dead, that its defenders do not lack intellectual ability or culture and training. Some of those prominent in this convention had been educated at Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Yale, Princeton or Toronto. Not a single word failed to indicate discipline of mind and a purpose to weigh well the consequences of every step taken, of every principle proclaimed, of every motive to which appeal was made. The faith which seemed to control every speaker was the faith of intelligence, of calm and quiet thought rather than the faith of fanaticism or of emotion.

Emphasis was laid upon the need of

well-trained men fitted to contend with the keenest minds abroad. At the same time the fact was never lost sight of that spirit-filled men are needed most of all. If loyalty to Christ were apparent as the guiding principle of the convention, dependence upon the Holy Spirit and upon the use of the means of spiritual culture and growth were almost equally prominent. Neither in the General Assembly nor in the anniversary gatherings of the American Board has there ever been a stricter attention to one single object than was exhibited at Cleveland. However great the underlying enthusiasm, it was not suffered to get the better of stern, cold reason. One could but feel that, were all the elderly men now at the head of the various departments of church work to be taken away, the vacancies thus created could be instantly filled by young men whose wisdom would be no less remarkable than their enthusiasm and self-denying devotion.

Taken all in all, the Cleveland convention indicates a rising tide in the life and activities of the church. Most inspiring were the faith of its leaders and its members in the Lord Jesus Christ, their catholicity toward one another and their sympathy with the needs of the non-Christian world. So was the confidence which they exhibited in the certainty that every promise which Christ has made will be fulfilled, and that no one who is called to be a missionary need doubt that it will be possible for him to enter upon missionary work; and so was the assurance, which all seemed to cherish, that nothing more is necessary than to acquaint the church with the real condition of the heathen world, and the fact that thousands of youth are waiting to take the gospel to it, in order to obtain the necessary funds. Nothing more inspiring has been seen since the days of the apostles.

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